THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) No specific norms have been laid down for posting of AIR Special Corerspondents abroad. However, due consideration is given to seniority and experience in an Electronics Media while making postings of AIR Correspondents abroad.

(b) and (c) The orders for posting of officers at Singapore and Dubai were last issued on 16th January, 1990 and 2nd February, 1990 respectively. No final selection has yet been made about the posting of their successors on completion of their three year tenure in May/June 1993.

Setting up of Commercial Film Corporation of declaring film business as industry

1680. SHRI RAMDAS AGARWAL: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have any proposal under consideration to declare film business as an "Industry" by setting up a Commercial Film Corporation with seed money to break the growing nexus between the film world and smugglers;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) if not, the reasons therefor; and

(d) in what manner Government propose to check this growing nexus between the film industry and smugglers and consequential generation of black money?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) No Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

(c) Government have not received any suggestion for setting up of a Commercial Film Corporation from the film industry, which is predominantly in the private sector.

(d) this is a law and order problem, maintenance of which falls within the jurisdiction of the State Government.

Regulation of Cable T.V. and Dish Antinnae

1681. DR. NARREDDY THULASI REDDY: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Damodaran Committee has recommended for the regulation and licensing of the cable television and dish antennae operators;

(b) what are the other important recommendations made by Damodaran Committee; and

(c) what recommendations have been accepted by Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) and (b) Yes, Sir. The recommendations made by the Inter-departmental Committee on Cable TV Networks and Dish antennae system are annexed as statement. (*See* below)

(c) The matter is under examination.

Statement

Recommendations made by the Inter-departmental Committee on Cable TV networks and dish antennae systems:—

(i) The establishment of Cable TV Networks (without Dish Antennae) may be permitted after devising an appropriate regulatory machanism to cover their operation both within private premises and across public property;

(ii) The licensing of a dish antennae should be permitted only

on the condition that the programmes received are not re-distributed through cable or otherwise;

(iii) It is necessary to enact a separate legislation which specifically addresses itself to regulating cable TV network operations in the country;

(iv) Such an enactment and the Rules and Orders issued thereunder could also clearly bring out the licensing procedures to be observed in the matter of establishment of Cable TV Networks as also technical and other parameters within which these networks are to function;

(v) The Committee felt that it will be appropriate that the functions of licensing are delegated to the State Governments;

(vi) The Committee recommended establishment of a National Cable Authority to coordinate all matters regarding regulation of Cable TV;

(vii) It will be compulsory for cable TV network to carry all Doordarshan signals which are available in the area through terrestrial transmitters;

(viii) The distribution of programmes through Cable TV Networks should be brought with in the definition of "public exhibitoon". This may call for making suitable amendments in related enactments;

(ix) The copyright Act may be suitably amended for providing distribution of of programmes through Cable TV Networks as a distinct category of copyright; and

(x) The requests received from Government/ Semi - Government/ Autonomous Bodies for establshment of Dish Antennae Systems to receive TV signals from foreign Satellites for the benefit of foreign experts employed in these organizations may continue to be considered on case to case basis in consultation with the Ministries of External Affairs, Home Affairs, and Information and Broadcasting.

Violation of DAVP clause by newspapers

1682. SHRI JAGIR SINGH DARD: Will the Minister of INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that when publications (or Newspapers) accept the rate contract awarded by the Directorate of Advertising and Visual Publicity, they also accept in writting the clause which says: That should a lower rate be allowed to any other advertisement either for display or classified advertisements during the period, such a lower rate shall apply to all Government of India's advertisements;

(b) if so, what action would be initiated to enforce the penalty clause in case such default is committed by any newspaper on the panel of the DAVP and brought to the Directorate's notice;

(c) whether it is also a fact that one particular case of violation by a newspaper from Gujarat has been brought to the Directorate's notice and no action had been taken to implement the Penalty Clause of Violation of the DAVP rules; and

(d) what would the Information and Broadcasting Ministry propose to implement the Penalty clause in the interest of the Government of India?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (SHRI K. P. SINGH DEO): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) In such an event, DAVP would seek refund/take appropriate action to effect recovery of the amount